

# DFR Health Insurance Regulation

House Health Care  
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# What is Health Insurance?

## Health Insurance:

- Vermont law defines health insurance as insurance against bodily injury, disablement, or death by accident or accidental means, or the expense thereof, or against disablement or expense resulting from sickness. Does not include workers' compensation.

## Examples of Health Insurance:

- Major Medical
- Medicare Supplement
- Accident and sickness
- Short- and Long-Term Disability
- Hospital Indemnity
- Cancer Policies
- Short-term limited duration
- Dental and vision insurance

# Providers of Health Insurance

**Health Insurance Companies – e.g.,  
BCBSVT and MVP**

Medicare

Medicaid

Employers (Self Insured)

TRICARE

# DFR's Role in Health Insurance Regulation

## Regulatory Objective:

- “Maintain affordability and availability of insurance for Vermonters while certifying that insurers can meet their contractual obligations; ensure competition within the industry and protect Vermont consumers against unfair and unlawful business practices.”

## Health Insurer Solvency

- Primary oversight of **domestic** insurer solvency  
e.g., BCBSVT

## Approval and review of policy forms and premiums

- Does **not** include premiums for major medical insurance provided by health insurers

# Company Licensing

- The Company Licensing section is responsible for the routine financial analysis and examinations of Vermont domestic insurance companies and licensing foreign and alien insurance companies.
- 6 Domestic Health Insurance Insurer in Vermont
  - Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont, Non-Profit Medical
  - The Vermont Health Plan, Health Maintenance Organization
  - Vermont Blue Advantage, Health Maintenance Organization
  - Wellcare Health Plans of Vermont, Health Maintenance Organization
  - Delta Dental Plan of Vermont, Non-Profit Medical
  - Vermont Education Health Initiative, Statutory Insurance Trust
- 343 Foreign Life and Health Insurance Insurers licensed in Vermont
- 1 Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement

# Rates and Forms

- Health insurance policies filed for prior approval
  - Accident and Sickness Minimum Standards [I-1980-10](#)
  - [Title 8 V.S.A. Chapter 107](#)
- Health insurance rates (except major medical) filed for prior approval
  - “affordable and is not unjust, unfair, inequitable, misleading, or contrary to the laws of this State” Title 8 V.S.A. § 4062(h)(2)

# Regulatory Role Continued

## Consumer Services

- Consumer complaints related to health insurance
- Health insurance external appeals

## Market Conduct

- Primary market conduct regulator of rules and laws for health insurance

# Regulatory Role Cont'd

- Enforcement of the Affordable Care Act
- Enforcement of the No Surprises Act
- Third Party Administrators
- Health Care Stop Loss
- CMS Grant
- Intermunicipal Insurance Agreements (VEHI)
- Community Rating Formula
- Mental Health Parity
- Pharmacy Benefit Managers
- Annual Reporting